



NATIONAL HEALTH MUSEUM KIOSK PROJECT



Project Summary

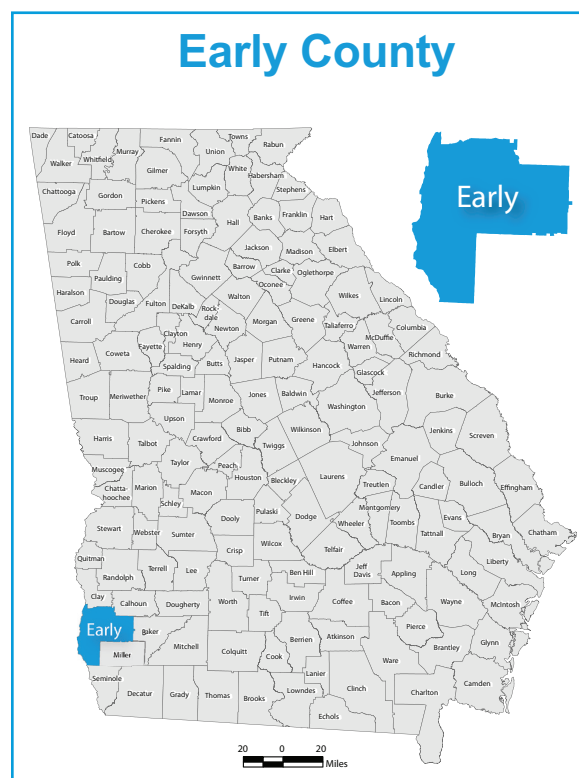
The Georgia Department of Community Health (DCH) and the National Health Museum (NHM) are collaborating on a project to bring new kiosk technology solutions to communities struggling with poor health outcomes. Since 2004 the NHM has successfully developed and conducted nationwide testing of a family of customized digital communication devices (or kiosks). The kiosk program has been tested in science museum and hospital environments across the country. NHM is now expanding the testing of the technology in new environments ranging from high traffic public consumer venues to more private locations, such as patient clinics and community centers.

DCH's commitment to improving health care delivery systems, health outcomes and empowering health care consumers to make informed decisions about their health care and life style habits is consistent with NHM's mission and program objectives. The kiosk system offers providers an innovative tool with which to address patient health issues and gives local citizens an opportunity to use promising technology to learn about healthier lifestyle choices and conditions that disproportionately impact them.

Pilot Area – Early County

The pilot project will be conducted in Early County which is located in southwest Georgia. While there are myriad health conditions impacting the citizens of Early County, two of the most pressing issues for this community are heart health and infant mortality. Some of the conditions that can be addressed by focusing on these topics include obesity and weight control, diabetes, high blood pressure, cholesterol, smoking, healthy nutrition, physical activity, pre-and post-natal care, childhood immunizations, newborn care and general wellness.

Key considerations in the selection of Early County as the first location or community to pilot the kiosk program were its combination of community resources and service-delivery environment. Representatives from all major segments of the community – health care, business/commercial, education, civic and faith-based organizations – will be actively involved in the effort. In addition to its wealth of community resources, Early County offers well-coordinated and comprehensive health care services in one central location. The developing Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) shares space with and coordinates services provided by the DCH's Public Health county health departments. This environment creates an ideal venue for pilot testing of a kiosk because residents receive primary health care and public health services in one location.



continued

A SNAPSHOT OF NATIONAL HEALTH MUSEUM KIOSK PROJECT

Project Goals

The overall goal of Phase 1 of the Community Kiosk Pilot Program is to create a successful kiosk prototype that can be scaled for statewide replication. The flexible kiosk project design will allow for easy replication in other counties across Georgia while its content, images and user experiences will incorporate the language, values and cultural context of Early County and future counties where it is implemented.

The project goal will be achieved by accomplishing the following specific pilot project objectives:

- Create a kiosk that delivers engaging and accessible information about the most pressing health issues in Early County. Through its emphasis on the key theme of prevention, the community will be provided with information on the following topics:
 - H1N1 and Immunizations (adults and children)
 - Diabetes
 - Obesity
 - Hypertension
 - Sexual and reproductive health
- Establish best practices for program replication in other communities across the state of Georgia.

Project Outcomes

- Database of professional experts, community champions, local citizens and health care providers
- Technical and training blueprint (hardware, software and procedures) for implementing health kiosks in additional rural Georgia communities
- Communications and outreach toolkit for providing public health education tools and information
- Documentation of the project outcomes, lessons learned and test results
- Recommended next steps for executing Phase 2, implementing health kiosks in additional rural Georgia communities
- Improved awareness of healthier lifestyle choices for the health care consumers using the FQHC and public health services

Summary

When fully implemented the National Health Museum Community Kiosk Pilot Project will provide a convenient vehicle for promoting healthy living in Early County and, ultimately, throughout the state of Georgia. From formative research and coalition building to summative evaluation and recommendations for future action – the project's emphasis is on collaboration and coalition building. Continual engagement at the local level through site visits, stakeholder discussions, key informant interviews, focus groups and community observations is a critical success factor. DCH lends overall guidance to all aspects of the project by serving as a source of content expertise, document assessment and product planning.

For more information about this project, contact Alicia McCord-Estes at aestes@dch.ga.gov.